

**CITY OF WINCHESTER  
NATURAL RESOURCES ADVISORY BOARD**

**March 18, 2010**

**Winchester City Yards Conference Room**

**5:30 P.M.**

**MINUTES & ACTION ITEMS**

- I. Board Chair Gerald Crowell welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm. In attendance were Gerald Crowell, Dave Worthington, Woody Bousquet, and Jim Lawrence.
- II. The minutes from the meeting on February 18, 2010 were reviewed. Motion to approve the minutes by Jim Lawrence, seconded by Dave Worthington. Approved by 4-0 vote.
- III. Friendship Park Update-Jim Lawrence gave an update on Friendship Park broken into 6 areas:
  - a) The Riparian Buffer Demonstration- project was not funded by the ARRA grants primarily because of a minimum thirty five foot buffer requirement for all riparian plantings; other sites are being considered.
  - b) Community Tree Planting-After correspondence with Patrick Farris from The Winchester Tree Commission and others it was determined that no local group was able at this time to take the lead on a second community tree planting project planned for April 24, 2010. The members of The Natural Resources Advisory Board also agreed to get locals involved in the plantings, with the possibilities of being able to adopt trees.
  - c) Background- The Community Tree Planting Team, CTPT, is made up of members from The Opequon Watershed, Inc, TOW, and staff from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, DEQ, Conservation and Recreation, DCR, and Forestry, DOF. Its purpose is to implement water quality improvement practices identified in the 2005 Abrams-Opequon TMDL Implementation Plan, one of which is riparian tree plantings. The group has worked closely with The Winchester Department of Public Works, City Arborist Tim Stern and Winchester Public Schools and has planted over 1,150 trees in the Winchester-Frederick County area since 2007.
  - d) The Community Tree Planting Team, CTPT- has decided to stick with one event this year to be held on April 24, 2010. However, the group will seek to expand and broaden its mission by including representatives from various city departments and entities such as The Tree Commission and The Natural Resources Advisory Board in order to better coordinate efforts in the areas of long term planning, site selection, outreach and fund raising. The overall mission will be expanded to help the City meets its goals as outlined in the Urban Tree Canopy Implementation Plan.
  - e) This year's event- is planned for Friendship Park on Saturday April 24, 2010 from nine am to twelve noon. Live stakes, four hundred seedlings and shrubs will be planted along the main conveyance channel and additional trees will be planted mainly around the perimeter of the storm

water basin; other areas in the park are to be identified. The project is on the agenda for the March 22, 2010 Parks and Recreation Board meeting. Parks and Recreation Director Brad Veach is in favor of the project, citing that it supports the city's riparian buffer ordinance and Parks and Recreation's decision to stop mowing the storm water basin and conveyance channels. Brad Veach also supports the idea of increasing tree canopy in general.

- f) Next Steps- Following the expected endorsement by the Parks and Recreation, Board's new members will be invited to join a Community Tree Planting Team, CTPT, conference call to continue planning for this year's event.

- IV. The Board reviewed the action items from February and all were completed.
- V. Action items were assigned for the April meeting.
- VI. The Board recommended items for the April agenda.
- VII. Meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

NO.	ACTION ITEM:	ASSIGNED TO:	TARGET DATE:	STATUS:
1	<b>CTPT requests the Natural Resources Advisory Board to appoint a representative(s) to the CTPT. That representative will serve as a liaison between the groups and participate in event planning, site selections, promotion, outreach, and other responsibilities based on interest and skills.</b>	<b>Jim</b>		
2	<b>E-mail topics for discussion for April meeting.</b>	<b>All Board members</b>		
3	<b>Meet with Tom Hoy and Patrick Farris on the future operation of the Tree Commission and Natural Resources Advisory Board meetings.</b>	<b>Gerald Crowell</b>	<b>4-9-10</b>	
4	<b>Start a brainstorming process for future Natural Resources Advisory Board priorities.</b>	<b>All Board members</b>		